



State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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Erika Fardella
Fairfield Inn
8 Keewaydin Dr.
Salem, New Hampshire 03079

LETTER OF DEFICIENCY
WMB PBF 02-34
July 9, 2002

Dear Ms. Fardella:

The Department of Environmental Services, Water Division ("DES") is required by RSA 485-A:26 to operate a program to ensure the health and safety of the public when using public bathing facilities such as pools and spas. To implement this program, DES has adopted administrative rules Env-Ws 1101-1105 to specify the design, operation, and maintenance requirements for public bathing facilities. DES reviews applications for new public bathing facilities and also inspects and tests the water in existing public bathing facilities to ensure that applicable requirements are being met.

On July 1, 2002, DES inspected the outdoor pool at the Fairfield Inn in Salem, NH ("the Pool"). During this inspection the following deficiencies were noted:

A recommendation to close and super chlorinate the Pool was issued on July 2, 2002. The inspection on July 1, 2002 revealed that the Pool was in violation of Env-Ws 1103.14 and unsafe for public use. The following bacterial violations were observed in the Pool water:

- (a) Pursuant to Env-Ws 1103.14(a)(1) the maximum allowable concentration of total coliform bacteria and *Escherichia coli* in public bathing facility water is zero counts per one hundred milliliters (0CTS/100mL). The Pool water contained 46 CTS/100mL of total coliform bacteria with *E. coli* bacteria present.
 - (b) The maximum allowable concentration of non-coliform bacteria in public bathing facility water is two hundred counts per one hundred milliliters (200 CTS/100mL). The Pool water contained greater than 200 CTS/100mL.
- 2 Env-Ws 1103.15(c) requires a free residual chlorine concentration between 1.0 mg/L and 3.0 mg/L in public pool water. The free chlorine residual of the Pool water was less than 0.1 mg/L on July 1, 2002.
 - 3 Env-Ws 1104.01 requires the operator to test public bathing facility water for disinfectant residual, pH, and temperature prior to use of a public bathing facility and every 4 hours during operation, to record test results on a dated daily log sheet, and to maintain operational records for the previous twelve months and make these records available to DES and patrons of the public bathing facility upon request. No written records were available at the time of the inspection relative to the required testing of the Pool water.
 4. Env-Ws 1104.04(a) requires the following safety devices to be present at all public pools: (1) a light, strong pole not less than 12 feet long, including a body hook, and (2) a minimum one-fourth inch diameter throwing rope as long as one and one-half times the maximum width of the pool or 50 feet, whichever is less, to which has been firmly attached a ring buoy with an outside diameter of approximately 15 inches or a similar flotation device. These safety devices were not present at the Pool at the time of inspection.

- 5 Env-Ws 1105.01(j) requires a rope with attached floats a ("breakpoint safety line") to be placed across public pools over the break in depth between the shallow and deep portions of the pool. A breakpoint safety line was not present in the Pool at the time of the inspection.
6. Env-Ws 1105.01(k)(19) requires pool filtration systems to include a flow meter. The filtration system for the Pool did not include a flow meter.

A report outlining how compliance will be achieved with the cited deficiencies should be submitted to DES within 30 calendar days from receipt of this letter. The report should include the following:

- 1 A copy of two weeks of water quality test results for all facilities (please do not send originals).
2. The type, manufacture, and model of the flow meter to be installed.
3. A timetable of when:
 - a. the safety items will be in place, and
 - b. the installation of the flow meter will be completed.

DES personnel will conduct another inspection at a later date to determine whether you have come into, and are maintaining, full compliance with RSA 485-A:26 and Env-Ws 1101-1105. After a violation of Env-Ws 1103.14, the facility will be required to pass two inspection in the following months. In the event that compliance is not achieved, DES may take further action, including seeking an administrative fine up to \$2,000 for each offense or referring the case to the NH Attorney General's Office for judicial action.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Please contact Amy Wilson at (603) 271-7108 if you have any questions regarding this letter. Copies of Env-Ws 1101-1105 are available through the DES Public Information Center at (603) 271-2975 or via the Internet at <http://www.des.state.nh.us/pools/env1100.pdf>.

Sincerely,


COPY
Jody Connor
Limnology Center Director

cc: Gretchen C. Rule, Enforcement Coordinator, DES
Russell A. Nylander, P.E., Chief Engineer, WD/DES
Amy Wilson, Public Bathing Facility Coordinator, DES
Suzanne B. Doucette, Health Officer, Town of Salem

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